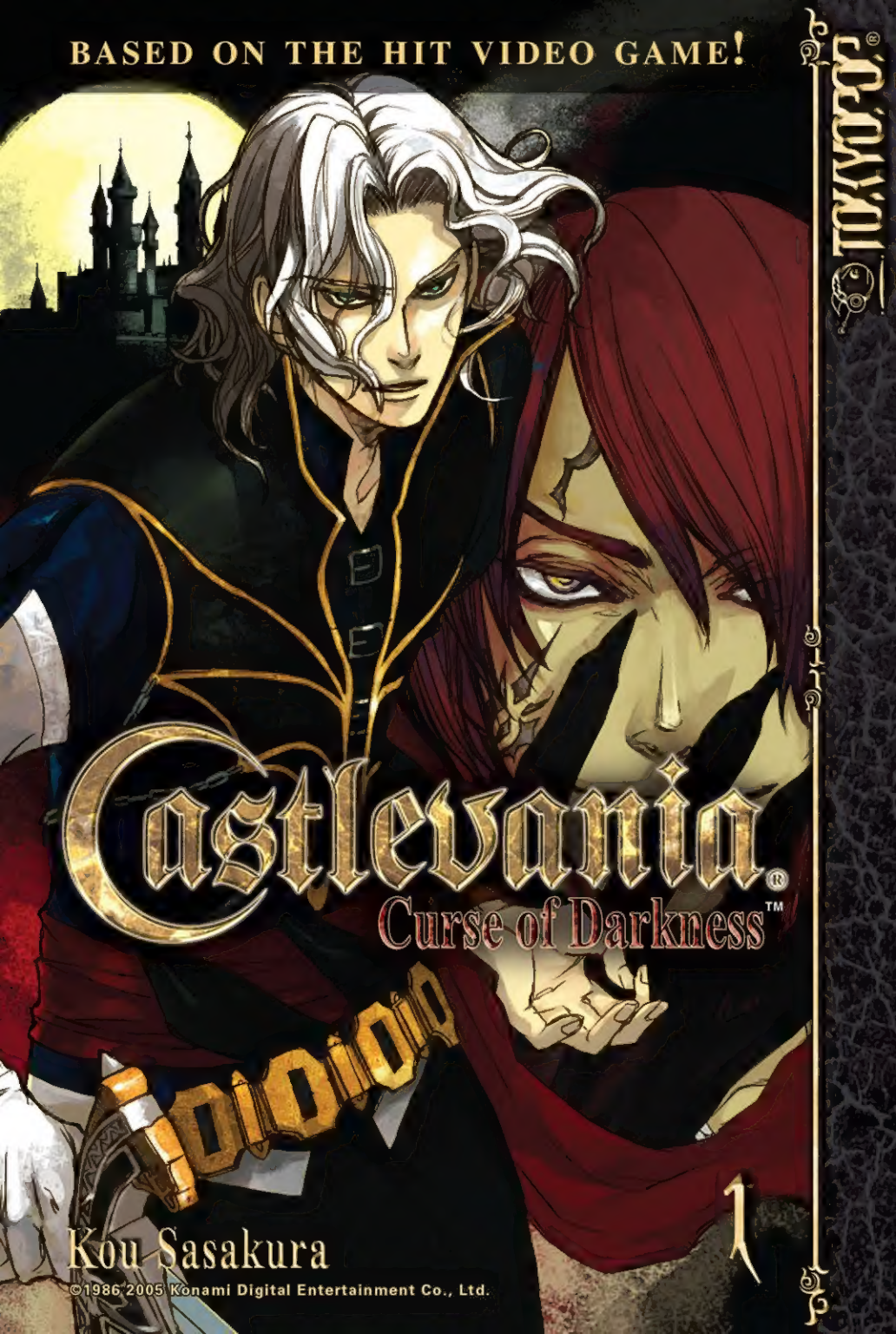
BASED ON THE HIT VIDEO GAME!



Castlevania®
Curse of Darkness™

1

Kou Sasakura

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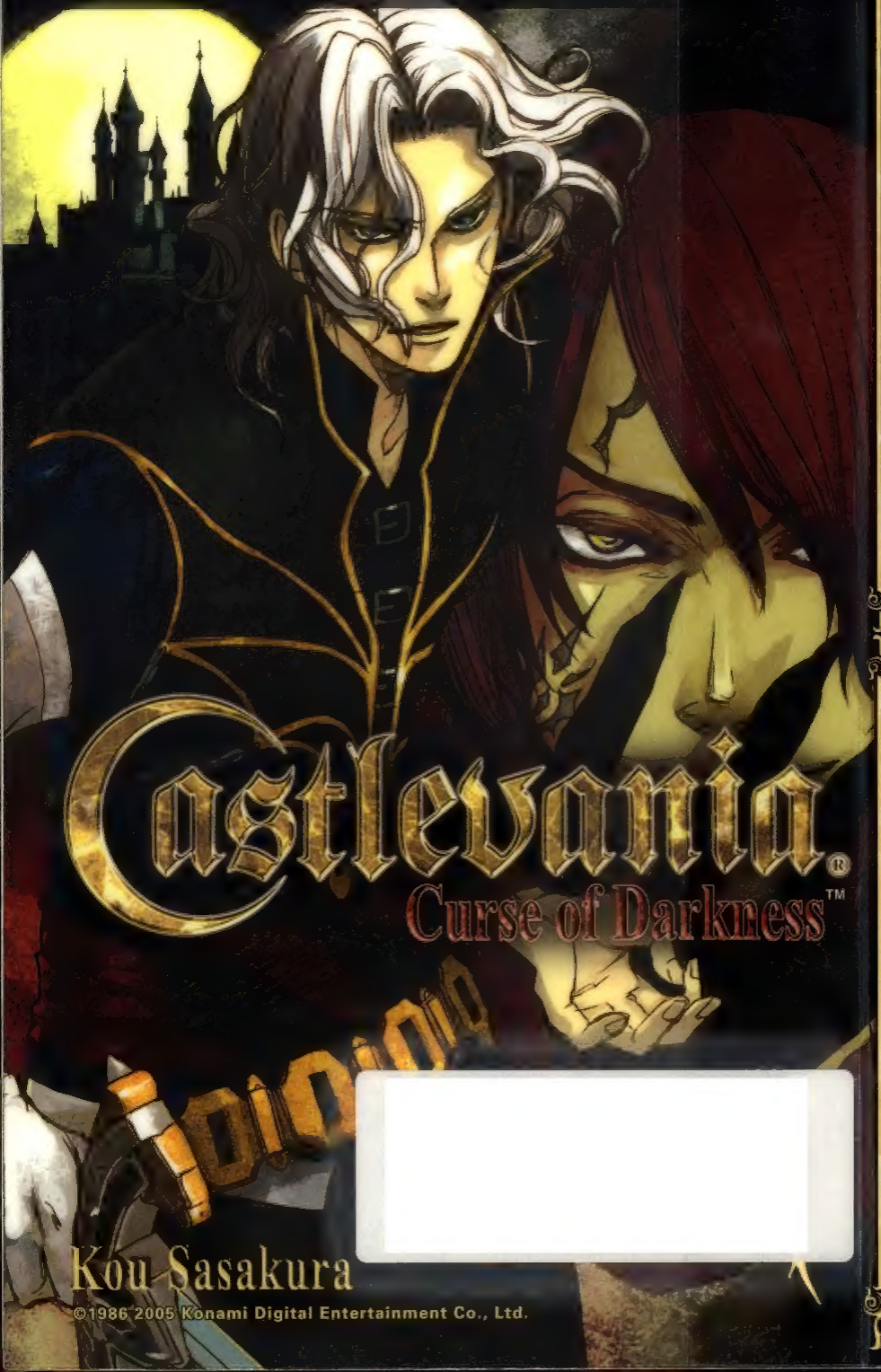

Castlevania®
Curse of Darkness™

Kou Sasakura

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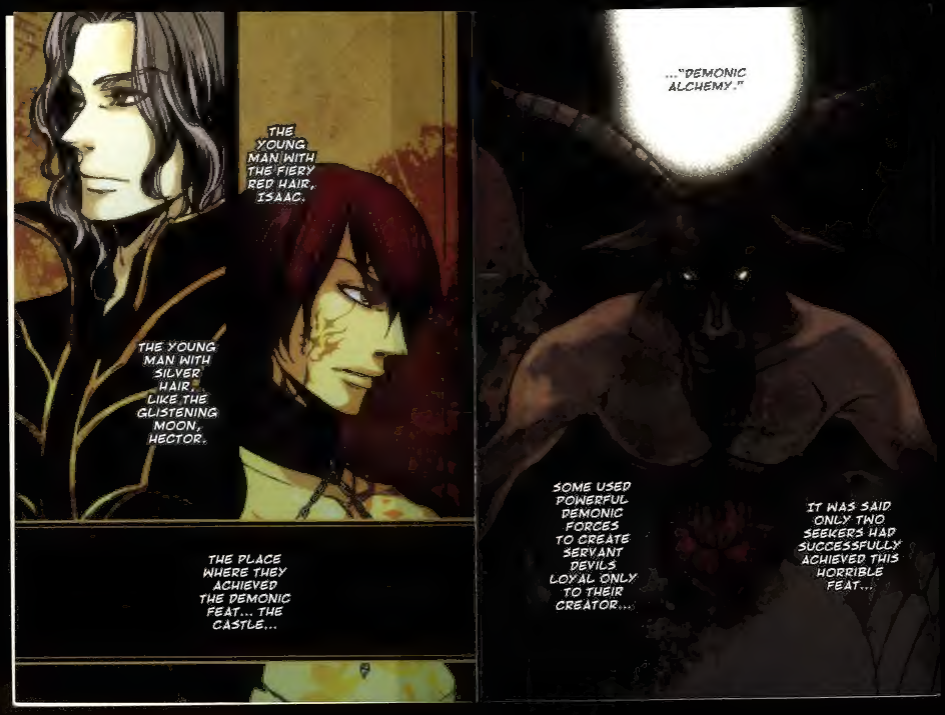
In the new manga based on the video game, a young boy becomes the focal point of Dracula's war on humanity.

In a small village near the Romanian border, young Ted waits for his father, a mercenary in the war against Count Dracula's demon army. Little does he know he is to become the center of a battle between two of the Count's most powerful generals...

ALCHEMY...
IN MEDIEVAL EUROPE, THIS QUEST TO TURN METAL TO GOLD OR INORGANIC MINERAL INTO HUMAN FORM...
...WAS SAID TO BE AS GREAT A TASK AS RECREATING GOD'S CREATION OF THE EARTH...
SO STUDENTS OF ALCHEMY DILIGENTLY LABORED IN THEIR RESEARCH. HOWEVER...
...IN THE DOMAIN OF DEEP DARKNESS... DEVOTEES OF DEMONIC WAYS ALSO STUDIED FEVERISHLY...


THE YOUNG MAN WITH SILVER HAIR, LIKE THE GLISTENING MOON, HECTOR.
THE YOUNG MAN WITH THE FIERY RED HAIR, ISAAC.
THE PLACE WHERE THEY ACHIEVED THE DEMONIC FEAT... THE CASTLE...
...."DEMONIC ALCHEMY."
SOME USED POWERFUL DEMONIC FORCES TO CREATE SERVANT DEVILS LOYAL ONLY TO THEIR CREATOR...
IT WAS SAID ONLY TWO SEEKERS HAD SUCCESSFULLY ACHIEVED THIS HORRIBLE FEAT...

THE PEOPLE CALLED
IT CASTLEVANIA...

Castlevania®
Curse of Darkness

Vol. 1

By
Kou Sasakura

TOKYOPOP

HAMBURG // LONDON // LOS ANGELES // TOKYO

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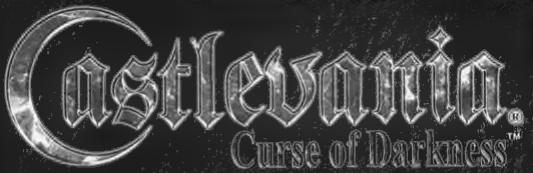


Castlevania Curse of Darkness

1

Kou Sasakura

Castlevania Curse of Darkness

Chapter 1: Hector

AS YOU ORDERED...
I HAVE ARE YE? JUST NOW, MY LORD
GREAT LORD OF DARKNESS
CHIEF OF OUR CLAN OF THE NIGHT

THE DEMON LORD, COUNT DRACULA

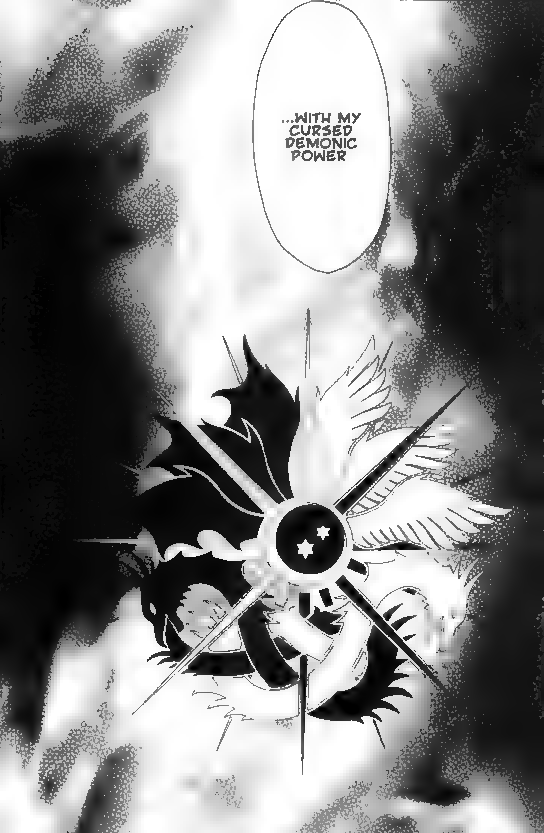
I SHALL HEAR YOUR REPORT
AS YOU ORDERED, THE ARMY COMMISSIONED BY THE EASTERN GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
HAS BEEN NEARLY WIPED OUT BY OUR DEMON ARMY
IT WAS TRULY JAM-DROP PINGLY EASY
NO MATTER HOW POWERFUL THEIR ARMIES ARE, NO MATTER HOW HIGHLY TRAINED THEIR MONKS ARE
THEY ARE ALL LIKE BABIES WHEN FACED WITH OUR DEMONIC POWER!!
EVEN NOW AS THEY LIE IN THE RAIN
THEY'LL BECOME BAIT FOR STRAY DOGS
OR PREY FOR THE RAVENS

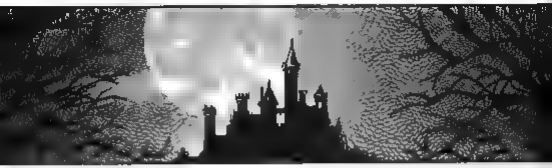
NO MATTER HOW MUCH THEY PRAY TO GOD
NO MATTER HOW MANY HUNDREDS OR THOUSANDS OF TROOPS THEY ASSEMBLE
ALL OF IT IS MEANING-LESS...
A MERE HUMAN ARMY IS NO MATCH FOR US.

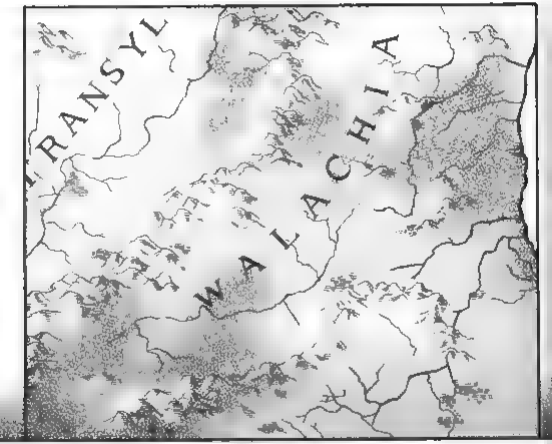
HUMANS SHALL REGRET THEIR SINS
INRI
AND THE GLORY OF GOD SHALL FALL TO EARTH
BUT THERE IS ONE THING.
ALL OF EASTERN EUROPE WILL BE SEEPED IN HUMAN BLOOD.

IN THE WEST, THE BELMONT FAMILY HAS STARTED A MOVEMENT
HE'S ONLY ONE HUMAN
CALLING HIMSELF THE GENUINE VAMPIRE HUNTER
BUT HE MAY BE THE ONLY ONE THE OTHERS MIGHT STRUGGLE AGAINST
THE HEIR TO AN INSOLENT AND DISGUSTING CLAN DARES TO BEAR A GRUDGE AGAINST US
I BEG OF YOU GRANT ME THE DUTY TO HUNT DOWN BELMONT

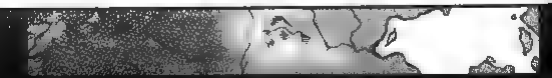
I HAVE ABANDONED THE REASON OF MAN AND EMBRACED THE LAWS OF HERESY
THEN I SHALL RIP HIM YO PIECES


...WITH MY CURSED DEMONIC POWER





15TH CENTURY, EUROPE, WALACHIA REGION



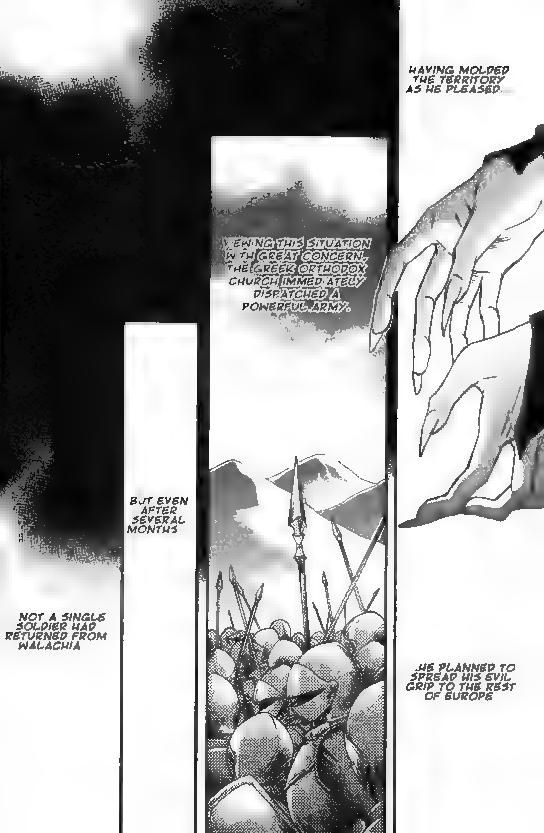
HERETOFORE BEEN HIDDEN BY THE DARKNESS OF NIGHT
HAS BEEN PLAGUED BY FEARSOME MISFORTUNES WHICH

BORROWING THE POWER OF THE EVIL LORDS, HE SUMMONED FORTH THE DEVILS

AND TRANSFORMED THE ENTIRE LAND OF WALACHIA INTO A MASS LAND OF DARKNESS AND BLOODSHED

THE LEADER OF THESE STRANGE CREATURES WAS A COUNT, DRESSED IN BLACK, CALLED DRACULA

SUDDENLY BEGAN TO APPEAR IN POPULATED AREAS


HAVING MOLDED THE TERRITORY AS HE PLEASED
HE PLANNED TO SPREAD HIS EVIL GRIP TO THE REST OF EUROPE
VIEWING THIS SITUATION WITH GREAT CONCERN, THE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH IMMEDIATELY DISPATCHED A POWERFUL ARMY.
BUT EVEN AFTER SEVERAL MONTHS
NOT A SINGLE SOLDIER HAD RETURNED FROM WALACHIA

A TINY VILLAGE, NEAR THE BORDER OF ROMANIA

HEY YOU KIDS, YOU'D BETTER GET HOME BEFORE IT GETS TOO DARK.

YES MA'AM

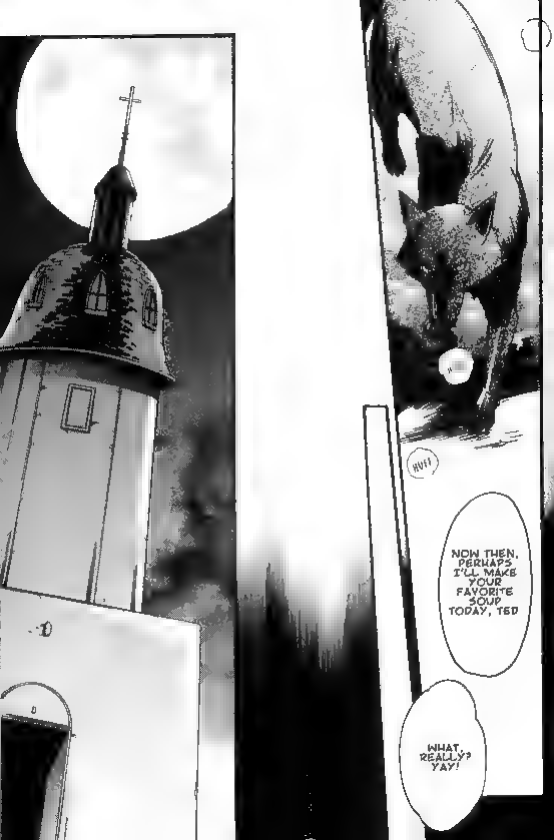
GULP
ESPECIALLY YOU, TED!
WHAT?! LET ME GO!
YOU KNOW, YOUR DAD IS ALWAYS ASKING ME.
YOU WERE PLAYING NEAR THE FOREST AT THE EDGE OF TOWN LAST NIGHT, WEREN'T YOU?
ARE YOU EATING PROPERLY? AND WHAT ABOUT YOUR CHORES...
I AM! I'VE BEEN DOING THEM!
GOOD EVENING, TED. COLLETTE.
OH, ROSALEE, DEAR. YOU'RE ON YOUR WAY HOME NOW?
HOW IS YOUR HUSBAND'S LEG?
SHE EVEN WENT OUT TO WORK IN THE FIELDS TODAY.
AH! HE'S UP AND RUNNING NOW.

THANK YOU FOR DOING SOME MENDING WORK FOR ME THE OTHER DAY
WE OWE A DEBT OF THANKS TO YOU, DEAR.
OH, IT WAS NO BOTHER I WAS DOING OTHER WORK AS WELL.
OH, MISS ROSALGEE
I'M JUST BAD AT THOSE KINDS OF THINGS
...
I'VE GOT SOMETHING TO DO SO I'LL BE GOING!
WHAT, HEY! WAIT, TED, I'M NOT DONE TALKING TO YOU!

THUD
WHAT THE HELL DO YOU DO THAT FOR?!
YOU WERE PLANNING TO GO INTO THE FOREST, WEREN'T YOU, TED?
?!
!!
I WAS ABOUT TO PREPARE DINNER, BUT IT'S SO LONELY BY MYSELF
OH, WHY DON'T YOU COME OVER AND EAT DINNER TONIGHT, TED?
IT'S ONE THING TO WAIT FOR YOUR DAD, BUT DON'T DO IT AT NIGHT
HE'S RIGHT IT'S BEEN PRETTY DANGEROUS LATELY...
AND I'VE BEEN HEARING BAD RUMORS, TOO
OKAY?

BUT, ROSALEE
THAT GUY IS STILL AT YOUR PLACE ISN'T HE?
IF MORE ES ME YOU CARRY NG HOME THAT STRANGER FALLEN BY THE SIDE OF THE ROAD WHO KNOWS WHERE HE CAME FROM?
SINCE THE FATHER IS CURRENTLY AWAY, ARE YOU GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT?
AUNTIE
IF SOME-THING WERE TO HAPPEN TO YOU
NOT TO WORRY, NOT TO WORRY!
IF ANYTHING HAPPENS, ME AND TED WILL COME RUNNING.
RIGHT!
!!

THANK YOU..
MR GREG TSD.
HA HA HA HA..
WHAT?
THAT HURT! YOU BIG GORILLA!!
AND AUNTIE TOO I'M FINE
HE'S A VERY POLITE MAN, AND IT SEEMS HE WILL BE LEAVING SOON
OH, YOU'RE RIGHT
LATELY THE SUN HAS BEEN GOING DOWN EARLY
REALLY?
WELL.. IF YOU SAY SO, THEN..
ALL RIGHT THEN, YOU SHOULD GO NOW IT'S GOTTEN QUITE DARK
HEY
YES
HAS THE FATHER REALLY BEEN GONE ALL THIS TIME?
HE'S BEEN AWAY ON SOME VERY IMPORTANT BUSINESS
PUT


WHAT, REALLY? YAY!
NOW THEN, PERHAPS I'LL MAKE YOUR FAVORITE SOUP TODAY, TED
HUH?

TODAY I HELPED MR HORACE, AND HE GAVE ME LOTS OF POTATOES.
THERE'S STILL PLENTY OF BREAD AND SOUP LEFT
NOW, NOW YOU DON'T NEED TO EAT SO FAST
ぐぅ
ぐぅ
ぐぅ

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "LOTS"? I KNOW THE DEAL...
YOUR HANDS ARE RAVAGED FROM WORKING SO MUCH...
AND YOU TAKE THOSE POTATOES YOU'VE RECEIVED AND IMMEDIATELY HAND THEM OUT TO OTHERS.
HE MADE YOU WORK LIKE A DOG FOR 10 OR SO POTATOES.
YOU'RE TOO NICE, ROSALEE!
LIKE TODAY, JUST BECAUSE MY DAD HASN'T COME HOME, YOU DON'T HAVE TO...

YOU'RE A KIND BOY, TED
LU
I... IT'S NOT LIKE I...
GUGU!!
YOU SEE, I REALLY LIKE TO WORK IN THE FIELDS...
TO SEW, TO CARRY WATER...
TO CLEAN, AND TO TAKE CARE OF HORSES. I LIKE ALL OF THAT

TO SEE THE SMILES ON EVERY ONE
TO BE IN TOUCH WITH THE BLESSINGS OF THE LAND
TO FEEL THE COLD MIXED IN THE SEASONS
TO BE ABLE TO SHARE BREAD WITH SOME ONE
I HAVE ALREADY RECEIVED PLENTY OF WHAT I WANT FROM EVERYONE
AH, THERE WON'T ANY MORE NEED FOR ANYTHING

BUT
WELL, OKAY
IF YOU'RE OKAY WITH IT, ROSALIES THEN I'M FINE.
I DON'T THINK YOU SHOULD BRING STRANGERS IN HERE
EVERYONE'S BEEN SAYING HOW DANGEROUS THINGS HAVE BEEN GETTING LATELY
I'M WORRIED

GYAAA
HMMM...
I HAVE A BAD FEELING.
HE MUST BE CLOSE...
BUT...

TED, I THINK YOU SHOULD STAY OVER
IT'S OKAY.
I DON'T WANT TO LEAVE THE HOUSE EMPTY DAD MIGHT COME HOME
TED
OKAY, SEE YA! THANK YOU FOR THE FOOD
ROSA LEE
...AS LONG AS I'M HERE...

TED
I'M SORRY, BUT THIS IS ALL I'VE GOT
BUT
HE'S GOT HIS GOOD SIDE, TOO.
SINCE MY DAD IS A MERCENARY HE DOESN'T HAVE A GOOD REPUTATION IN THE VILLAGE
AS LONG AS I REMEMBER I'M BRANDISHING MY SWORD FOR YOU. I BELIEVE THAT I'LL COME BACK ALIVE NO MATTER WHAT
BUT IT'S NOT LIKE BEFORE I'M NOT GOING BECAUSE I LIKE TO FIGHT ANYMORE
WHEN HE COMES HOME I WANT TO BE THERE FOR HIM
SINCE MOM DIED, I'M ALL HE'S GOT
TED
YOU REALLY DO LOVE YOUR FATHER, DON'T YOU?
IT'S NICE TO HAVE A HOME TO COME BACK TO
SO WAIT FOR ME. I PROMISE I'LL MAKE SOME MONEY AND COME BACK

HEH HEH.
GRAB
WHAT?
I DON'T SAY THIS BECAUSE HE WAS IN THE NEXT ROOM BUT
BUT I'M MORE WORRIED ABOUT YOU, ROSALBE.

ALL THE STRANGE THINGS HAPPENING LATELY
I HAVE A FEELING THEY STARTED WHEN HE CAME HERE
THAT BIRD BELONGS TO HIM, DOESN'T IT?
IT NEVER LEAVES THAT SPOT
LIKE IT'S STANDING WATCH OVER THIS CHURCH.
TED

WHEN HE AWAKES, THEN YOU SHOULD HURRY UP AND HAVE HIM LEAVE
IT'S NOT JUST COLLETTE. EVERYONE IN THE VILLAGE IS FEELING CREEPED OUT
IF SOMETHING WERE TO HAPPEN..
AND BECAUSE OF HIM, ROSALEE, YOU...
JUST THE FACT THAT A TRAVELER WOULD COME BY THIS VILLAGE IS STRANGE.
IF YOU GET TREATED LIKE A HERETIC !!
DON'T WORRY, TED

IT MAKES ME HAPPY THAT YOU'RE WORRIED FOR ME.
BUT FOR YOU TO JUDGE SOMEONE WHEN YOU DON'T REALLY KNOW HIM.
THAT MAKES ME SAD
THE FACT THAT HE WAS HURT AND ENDED UP AT THE CHURCH. .
IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN GOD'S WILL.
HE DOESN'T SPEAK MUCH.
BUT HE WAS ON THE GROUND, AND COVERED WITH BLOOD .
BUT HE HAS BEAUTIFUL EYES.
EVEN IF HE IS CARRYING SOME KIND OF SIN

ALL PEOPLE POSSESS GOOD AND BAD THINGS ABOUT THEM.
I WANT TO BELIEVE IN THE GOOD IN PEOPLE
I'M SURE THAT HE MUST HAVE CIRCUM-STANCES.
AND BESIDES
AS LONG AS HE ACKNOWLEDGES HIS SINS
AND REPENTS THEM.
I'M SURE THAT GOD WILL LEND A HELPING HAND.

YOU'RE TOO NICE!
WHAT IS IT?
ROSALEE
RO
THE BIRDS SEEM SO ATTACHED TO HIM!
I'M SURE HE'S A GOOD PERSON
I'LL COME BY AGAIN, SO IF YOU NEED ANYTHING JUST TELL ME, ROSALEE.

THANK YOU, TED GOOD NIGHT
ヒュ
...THE MOON IS SUCH AN UNPLEASANT COLOR TONIGHT
HE'S SUCH A GOOD CHILD

COME TO THINK OF IT FATHER SAID
SOMETHING OMINOUS HAS BEEN HAPPENING IN WALACHIA
I FEAR THAT TED'S FATHER IS THERE
I HOPE HE WILL COME BACK SAFELY
PERHAPS.
HE CAME FROM THERE, TOO.
Gyaaaa...

GYAAA
GYAAA
GYAAA
GYAAA
OH WHAT A SUR-PRISE
OH MY
IT SEEMS I FORGOT TO CLOSE THIS WINDOW
HEH HEH
I WONDER IF HE'LL EAT FOR ME TONIGHT
NOW THEN, I MUST PRE-PARE SUPPER FOR HIM

...HA...
HAAAAG
CAW
CAW...
HA HA... HA...
I CAN SMELL IT. I SMELL IT....
A WOMAN'S SMELL... AND...
THE SCENT OF EVIL
THE AROMATIC SCENT OF A DEVIL'S FORCE
A SCENT TWO SWORDS SHARING
A DEVIL'S EVIL...

BUT...
WHY AT A CHURCH?
HMM
HERD HIS PRESENCE MUST BE HIDDEN.
AFTER ALL, HE'S A WOLF IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING~
I SUPPOSE HE'LL CLAIM AN ADVANCE ON HIS REWARD.
...WELL, NO MATTER. MY JOB HERE IS DONE ANYWAY.
FINALLY...

WHAT IS IT ?
I FELT SOMETHING JUST NOW
SOMETHING AWFUL
AH!
?
ウウウ
……
GYAAA

MISS ROSALEE...?
IF DAD WERE TO COME HOME
A,
キュッ
ドキッ
……!

PLEASE BE SAFE
WHAT IS IT?
MISS ROSALISE
I HAVE A VERY BAD FEELING

TED...!
WHY DID YOU COME BACK?!
RUN AWAY!
HURRY...!
A WERE-WOLF?!

NO ROSALES WILL BE
HURRY!! RUN AWAY!!
HA HA...
A KITTEN...
A KITTEN...IS SORRY MY FAVORITE.
HA HA HA...

LATER...
I'LL EAT YOU LATER.
WAAAHHH!!

……!!
!!
ドカッ

AGH!
TED!!
GRRRR
...HM?
I TOLD YOU TO WAIT...
.....!

...YOU.
WHERE HAVE I...?
HA...
HA HA HA
HA...
"THAT'S RIGHT. THAT'S RIGHT. THIS SMELL ..."
HA HA HA ...
I... I...
I REMEMBER.

...HE HAVE NOT HAIR...
...AND THE SAME BLUE EYES.
...!
ALAS, A YOUNG COMMONER HAD A FEMALE LIKE SOPHIE...
ドキン
A FEW DAYS AGO IN THE WORKERS FORUM.
HA HA HAAA
HE WAS QUITE FORMIDABLE, FOR A HUMAN.
ドキン
DAD OH MY GOD
BUT ALAS...
WELL.

I'VE EATEN HIM ALREADY.
DAD...
...AH...

GWAAHH!
GAAHH!

ガッ
ドアッ

YOU PLAN..
!!
DAMN YOU... YOU WANT ME TO EAT YOU FIRST THAT BADLY ...?
...NGH...

オオ
Woooo
オオ
オオ

ROSA LEE
RUN AWAY, TED
YOU CAN GET OUTSIDE THROUGH THAT DOOR!
RUN, AND DON'T TURN BACK
UNTIL YOU REACH SOME-WHERE SAFE.
HURRY...!

AND TAKE HIM WITH YOU!
HURRY

THAT'S RIGHT! THIS GUY
HE'S BEEN IN THIS ROOM NEXT DOOR THIS WHOLE TIME
WH-
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
IF YOU DON'T DO SOMETHING, ROSALEE WILL BE--
TED!!
WHY ARE YOU JUST WATCHING AND NOT DOING ANYTHING?!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING? HURRY AND RUN!
DON'T WASTE ANY TIME!
WHY DOESN'T HE DO ANYTHING?!
NO!!
BUT HE HAS A WEAPON
!!

SHIT !

TED...?!
KYAAAAAA...!
!
NGHK...
NGHK
DAMN IT WHY?!
I GOT YOU BACK, PUNK...
HA HA HA HA...
TED?!
AGH
TED!

IF YOU AREN'T GOING TO BE OF ANY USE IN A TIME LIKE THIS...
WHY ARE YOU A SOLDIER?
ROSALEE SAVED YOU!
ARE YOU GOING TO JUST SIT AND WATCH HER DIE?!
WHY ...?
SHIT
DAMN!
NGH
NGH
WHY?!
YOU.
YOU'RE A SOLDIER, AREN'T YOU?!
WHY WON'T YOU HELP US?!

I CAN'T DO IT!
PLEASE ..!
BUT YOU..
PLEASE SAVE ROSALBE..!
GRRR
SORRY, BUT
...MY POWERS AREN'T SUITED TO HELPING PEOPLE.
WHA...?!
IF I WAS LIKE YOU SAY
JUST AN ORDINARY SOLDIER

LIKE SOME HERO IN A WELL-TOLD STORY...
IF I WAS ONE OF THOSE PEOPLE WHOSE HOBBY WAS TO SAVE OTHERS..
THEN MAYBE I WOULD HAVE BEEN HAPPY TO SAVE YOU
BUT UNFORTUNATELY, I'M NOT ONE OF THOSE PEOPLE.
BESIDES, MY POWERS ARE
HA...
HA HA HA...
HA...
HOW PITIFUL IS IS TO BE HELPLESS!
HA
HA
.....

HUMANS ARE SO FRAGILE.
AND SO FOOLISH, TOO.
THEY ARE WELL SUITED TO BEING KILLED BY US
ROSALEE...!
MMM...
SMELLS NICE.
HUH
NGH
THE SMELL OF A FEAST. THE JUICE OF WHICH I HAVEN'T HAD IN A WHILE..

WHAT A SURPRISE! AN UNREFINED WEREWOLF FROM THESE FRONTIER PARTS UTTER THE NAME OF DRACULA...?
WITHOUT BOJATE, THE REIGN OF COUNT DRACULA WILL END.
THOSE WITHOUT POWER MUST BE RULED BY OR BECOME FOOD...
IN THE THE WORLD, POWER IS ABSOLUTE.
WALACHIA!?
HURRY, HURRY, WE NEED COUNT DRACULA TO MASSACRE THEM ALL.
...STINKING WITH SOLDIERS AND PRIESTS.
W-WALACHIA IS NOW...

A PUSHOVER FROM MALACHIA

JUST LIKE A DOG.
HE CAME HERE BY TRACKING MY SCENT
HMPH
I SEE
THEN
THERE'S NO LONGER ANY REASON TO HIDE MY POWERS

YOU
YOU... WH WHY...
YOU SAID YOU NEEDED MY POWERS.
YOU DON'T KNOW...
WHAT MY POWERS ARE LIKE.
IF

MY VEXED, CURSED POWERS
IN ORDER TO SAVE THAT WOMAN, YOU MUST COMMIT A SIN.
THAT'S WHAT I MEANS TO RELY ON MY POWERS
MY POWERS ARE IN DEFIANCE OF YOUR GOD'S NAME
WOULD YOU STILL SAY THAT YOU NEEDED THEM?

IF YOU ARE PREPARED FOR THE CONSE-QUENCES.
THEN I WILL WIELD MY POWERS FOR YOU.
CHOOSE
WOULD YOU RATHER PRAY TO GOD AS YOU ARE EATEN BY THIS MONSTER..
..OR WILL YOU CHOOSE TO SURVIVE, AND LIVE ON, CURSING GOD AND YOURSELF?
WILL YOU BEAR THE BURDEN OF SIN AND CHOOSE MY POWERS?

DO NOT WAIT FOR THE HAND OF GOD. CHOOSE BY YOUR OWN FREE WILL.

YOUR POWERS.
NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE.
NO MATTER WHAT YOUR POWERS ARE
IF YOU CAN SAVE ROSALEE
EVEN IF GOD IS ANGERED.
...I'LL ACCEPT THE PUNISHMENT!

LEND ME YOUR POWERS!!
EVEN IF YOU'RE THE DEVIL
GYAAAAAA
I...

GYAAA
GYAAA

HAVE A GOOD LOOK.

JUST NOW
ISAAC, SIR?
IS SOMETHING WRONG?
...?
SO NONE OF YOU NOTICED
WHAT WAS
NEVER MIND

THAT DAMNED HECTOR
HE'S FINALLY USING HIS DEMONIC POWERS
SO LONG THE WEREWOLF PACK?
ALTHOUGH IT TOOK LONGER THAN I EXPECTED...
I'M PLEASED
IT PLEASES ME HECTOR
HEH
HEH HEH HEH

SO YOU WEREN'T DEAD AFTER ALL.
WERE YOU, HECTOR?

I HAD ORDERED HECTOR TO CARRY OUT
THE TASK OF SLAYING BELMONT
...
THAT'S RIGHT
HOW-EVER
SEVERAL DAYS AGO HECTOR'S PRESENCE DISAPPEARED

HE VANISHED INTO THE NIGHT, ALONG WITH SEVERAL DEVILS I SENT WITH HIM
HECTOR? NO WAY!
IF IT WASN'T BELMONT
THEN WHO COULD HAVE VANQUISHED SOME ONE AS POWERFUL AS HECTOR?
IT WASN'T BELMONT
HECTOR HESITATES TO CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY, BUT
HE HAS NOT ENTERED WALACHIA YET

YOU ARE TO FIND HECTOR
ISAAC.
GO WEST INVEST-- GATE WHAT HAPPENED
BUT WHO WILL PROTECT THIS CASTLE .?

F-FOR-GIVE ME
I WAS OUT OF LINE
HIS POWERS IT WOULD BE A SHAME TO LOSE THEM
UNDER-STAND THIS
IF HECTOR IS DEAD THEN THAT'S FINE
BUT IF NOT THEN YOU MUST BRING HIM BACK ALIVE

IF HE HAS BE-TRAYED ME
THEN I SHALL USE MY MAGIC TO TRANSFORM HIM INTO AN ESPECIALLY HIDEOUS DEMON
HE SHALL CRAWL ON THE GROUND
AND FEED ON MUD
AS A HIDEOUS MONSTER
NO ONE
NO ONE
SHALL
BE FORGIV-ING FOR BETRAY-ING ME

GO
I SHALL GIVE YOU A WERWOLF
YOU MUST FIND HECTOR
BUT AT A CRITICAL TIME LIKE THIS

IF BOTH WERE GONE, THEN THERE WOULD BE PLANS IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY BUT
TO HAVE US SEARCH FOR SOMEONE WHO MAY NOT EVEN BE ALIVE? THE COUNT MUST BE MAD
THAT'S TRUE
EVEN THOUGH SIR HECTOR, ALONG WITH SIR ISAAC, LED BOTH WINGS OF OUR ARMY
OH WELL
IT MEANS THAT THE COUNT FAVORED LORD HECTOR THAT MUCH
!!

F--
FORGIVE ME
YOU GREENHORNS, YOU CAN'T EVEN SENSE HIS PRESENCE.
THIS WAVE-LENGTH IS OF DEMONIC POWER
THAT MEANS
WE'RE GOING HECTOR IS NOT DEAD
THAT'S RIGHT. HE'S CLOSE

HECTOR...
SO AFTER ALL, HE IS...
WHAT WAS THAT ?

D...
THOSE BLACK WINGS
DAMN YOU ...!!
WHAT HAPPENED?
WHY...?!
WHY HAVE YOU...?
YOU...

YOU'RE ONE OF OUR...
GWAAAAAH!
...NGH...

.....
I'M ONE OF YOUR WHAT...?
A REAL DEVIL?!

I SEE... N-NOW I UNDER-STAN!
W-WAIT!
IF YOU WANT THE WOMAN AND THE CHILD, YOU CAN HAVE THEM!
I-I-I'M SORRY FOR TRYING TO TAKE THEM FROM YOU.
I'M AT YOUR TO GO AGAINST YOU..
I JUST ...
I JUST CAME HERE BECAUSE I WAS TOLD TO TRACK YOUR SCENT.
SO YOU FIGURED, ALONG THE WAY

THAT YOU'D EAT SOME HUMANS WHILE YOU WERE AT IT
I
"POWER IS ABSOLUTE."

THAT'S RIGHT I USED TO ALWAYS BELIEVE THAT
NO MATTER HOW MUCH I PRAYED, NO MATTER HOW MUCH I KNELT...
...GOD WOULD DO NOTHING FOR ME
IN THE END IT WAS ABOUT POWER PURE POWER..
AND WHEN IT CAME TO POWER, THERE WAS NOTHING GREATER THAN A DEMON'S POWER

EVEN IF IT WAS LEARNED FROM A DEMON.
POWER ITSELF HAS NEITHER GOOD NOR EVIL.
BUT...
IS- IS-AM...
BUT AFTER ALL, A DEMON'S POWER IS DEMON'S POWER

NO MATTER HOW POWERFUL IT IS
CURSED POWER BRINGS NOTHING BUT UNHAPPINESS
AND THAT IS
THE DEMON'S POWER
W-WAIT...!
NO...!

!!

IS
THIS

...IS THIS...
...MY POWER THAT YOU WANTED?
A DEMON..?
BUT..
...THIS GUY...

!!
SIR ISAAC!
THAT SURGE OF POWER JUST FELT...
SO YOU SENSED IT THIS TIME
SO IT'S TRUE

THE MERE WOLF'S PRESENCE WAS ENOUGH TO DISAPPEAR?
DAMMIT!
THAT EASILY?
COULD IT BE
THAT SIR HECTOR
BUT STILL...
WE CAN'T BE SURE YET

IT WAS HECTOR
JUST NOW.
THAT WAS HECTOR
EVEN IF YOU GUYS CAN'T TELL
I CAN.

SO "EASILY"?
THAT'S RIGHT THAT PIDDLING WERE-WOLF
IS NO MATCH FOR YOU!
HA HA...
HA HA HA HA HA!
YOU ARE OUR DEMON ARMY'S MOST POWERFUL MASTER

SO HECTOR IS NOW MY ENEMY
HECTOR
HEH HEH I SEE
HEH HEH
HEH HEH HEH HEH
HA HA HA HA HA
THEN
WE SHOULD
YES
WE MUST REPORT TO THE COUNT

IF SIR HECTOR IS OUR OPPONENT, WE WON'T STAND A CHANCE
WE HAVE NO CHOICE
THEN I SHALL TEMPORARILY RETURN--
!!

WHA ?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, SIR ISAAC?!

THERE IS NO NEED
TO REPORT
?!
WHEN WE FOUND HIM HE WAS ALREADY DEAD
WAS DEAD
SO IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE
BRING HIM BACK
.....!

DAMN YOU!
SO FIRST HECTOR, AND NOW YOU?!
WHAT
ARE YOU BETRAY-ING US?!
YOU WON'T GET AWAY WITH THIS!
3R ISAAC!
I WON'T FORGIVE YOU, ISAAC!

?!
GO!
ABEL!

GAAA
AAH... AAH...
AAH... AAH...

HA
HA
HA!
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA!
HA
HA
HA
!!

COME BACK ABEL

EVEN IF HECTOR IS NOT AROUND ANYMORE I CAN SERVE AS COUNT DRACULA'S ADEQUATELY
I AM ALWAYS COUNT DRACULA'S LOYAL SERVANT
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE
ME? BETRAY COUNT DRACULA?

THAT VILLAGE
THE ONLY PLACE TO HIDE ONE'S DEMONIC POWERS IS IN A PLACE WHERE GOD'S POWER IS STRONG
MOST LIKELY A PLACE WHERE GOD'S CELEBRATED
!!
I THOUGHT THAT ONE DAY WE WOULD FACE EACH OTHER TO THE DEATH, HECTOR

FROM THE MOMENT WE FIRST MET...

Castlevania Curse of Darkness

Chapter 2: Isaac
wolf
wolf

ゴロ
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
AGH
HURRY AND GET UP
BUT I M
WE HAVE TO HURRY
IF WE GET THROUGH THIS FOREST IT SHOULD BE CLOSE
WE NEED TO GET THERE BEFORE MORNING
HURRY

SO THIS IS
.....!
HE HAS ALREADY COME TO A CLOSE TO IT?
オオオ
THAT'S RIGHT

IN FOLLOWING THE DEVIL'S PATH, HE BECAME ONE OF THE UNDEAD WHO SURPASSED ALL HUMAN KNOWLEDGE
THAT IS THE DEVIL'S CASTLE!
THE CASTLE OF THE VAMPIRE COUNT DRACULA

ARE YOU AFRAID?
THERE'S NO NEED TO FEAR
THE COUNT IS SAID TO BE GENEROUS TOWARDS THOSE WHO TURN THEIR BACK ON GOD, LIKE US.
LOOK
THE TREES, THE AIR, EVEN THE STATUES AROUND THE CASTLE ENTRANCE ARE STEEPED IN THE DEVIL'S POWER

IT TRULY IS MAGNIFICENT
TRULY
THIS INDEED IS THE PLACE I HAVE BEEN SEEKING
THAT'S RIGHT THERE'S NO NEED TO FEAR
THIS IS THE ONLY PLACE WE CAN GO ANYMORE

THIS CURSED DEVIL'S CASTLE

2 YEARS LATER
OH DEVIL'S POWER!

GATHER HERE
TO THE TUNE OF A SOUL WITHOUT REASON, PLAY BY MY OWN LIFE
TO ONE NOT OF THE WORLD OF MAN
AN UNTAINTED SOUL...
BE BORN HERE NOW!!

……!!
DAMN

AS I THOUGHT, REFINING A HIGH LEVEL DEMON IS DIFFICULT
SOMETHING ALONG THE LINES OF A FAIRY'S SIMPLE, BUT
HOW CAN I DO IT..?
IT SEEMS YOU'RE HAVING TROUBLE, ISAAC

THE IMAGE IN YOUR MIND IS NOT CLEAR. THAT'S WHY YOU KEEP FAILING AT THE LAST STAGE
DON'T LOOK SO SCARED NOW
I JUST CAME TO GIVE YOU SOME ADVICE
YOU HAVE MUCH POWER, BUT YOU'RE NOT GOOD AT STABILIZING IT
コトン

THE HARD PART IS GIVING SHAPE AND SOUL TO A SIMPLE MASS OF DEVIL'S POWER
.....
IF YOU WORK ON REFINING IT, EVEN A HUMAN CAN CONCENTRATE THE DEVIL'S POWER
IN ORDER FOR A MASS OF ENERGY WITHOUT CONSCIOUSNESS
TO BE TRANSFORMED INTO A LIVING DEVIL
YOU MUST GIVE IT A SHELL AND APPLY STABLE POWER TO THAT SHELL

THE MORE POWERFUL THE DEVIL, THE LARGER ITS POWER SO STABILIZING IT BECOMES MORE DIFFICULT
IF YOU FAIL
IT MAY COME BACK AND HIT YOU
ADVICE? DON'T BE FOOLISH.

SINCE WHEN HAVE YOU BECOME SO KIND?
TALK! WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM ME?
WANT ?
NOTHING IN PARTICULAR
I JUST WANT TO BE HELPFUL TO YOU

YOU'RE SO PRETTY
AND MORE-OVER
BUT I LIKE YOU THE BEST
THERE ARE MANY DIFFERENT TYPES OF BEINGS IN THIS CASTLE
YOU HAVE A STRONG
STRONG
SCENT OF DESIRE ABOUT YOU.

……!!
ボタボタッ
HEH
HEH HEH
HEH HEH HEH HEH
HEH HEH HEH HEH
7

YOU'RE SO VIOLENT TOWARDS WOMEN. YOU'RE SUCH A SAVAGE.
OH MY

YOU'RE SO WRETCHED YOU'RE SO HUNGRY THAT YOU CAME TO SUCK MY LIFEFORCE
OH HOW INSULTING
I JUST WANTED TO HELP YOU GET USED TO THIS CASTLE MORE QUICKLY
I HAVE NO INTENTION OF BECOMING ONE OF YOU
HEH HEH
BUT YES, IT'S TRUE YOUR EYES.
YOU SAY SUCH CRUEL THINGS. IT MAKES ME SAD

IT SEEMS THERE'S NO NEED FOR ME TO LEND A HAND
AL-READY
YOU HAVE BECOME QUITE FRIENDLY WITH THE DARKNESS, HAVEN'T YOU?
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT, BUT I HAVE NO INTENTION OF BECOMING FRIENDLY WITH A SUCCUBUS LIKE YOU
BUT STILL, IT'S NOT ENOUGH

A BEAUTIFUL YOUNG BOY, ABOUT THE SAME AGE AS YOU
OH YES, COME TO THINK OF IT
WITH SILVER HAIR
AND COLD, ICE BLUE EYES
ANOTHER HUMAN, JUST LIKE YOU, HAD COME TO THIS CASTLE, SEEKING TO LEARN THE ARTS OF THE DEVIL

I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU'RE TRYING TO HIDE UNDER MY SKIN.
BUT THERE ARE PLENTY OF OTHER HUMANS HERE IN THIS CASTLE WHO ARE PRACTICING THE DEVIL'S ARTS
WHAT DOES THAT HAVE TO DO WITH ME?
IF YOU WANT TO TALK NONSENSE, THEN WHY DON'T YOU GO TALK TO THOSE BATS OVER THERE? I--
BUT I HADN'T MET A HUMAN WHO HAD AS MUCH POWER AS YOU UNTIL NOW
DEEP
DEEP DARKNESS
THAT BOY
HE HAD SUCH POWERFUL DEMON MAGIC SO MUCH THAT I ALMOST THOUGHT HE WASN'T HUMAN.

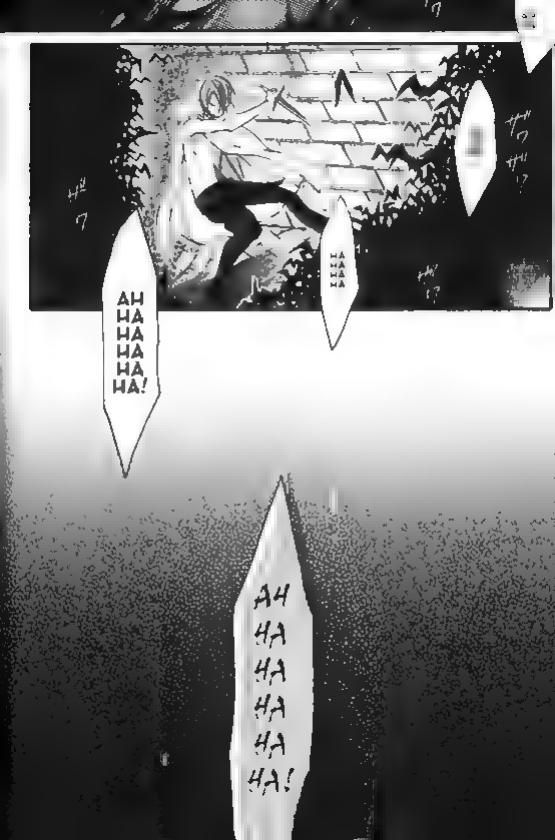
THE DEEPER THE DARKNESS OF ONE'S SOUL.
THE MORE POWERFUL ONE'S DEMON MAGIC BECOMES
THAT BOY WILL SURELY BECOME MORE POWERFUL
MORE POWER-FUL.
PERHAPS
YES. MORE POWER-FUL.
MAYBE MORE POWERFUL THAN EVEN YOU

YOU WANT TO TEST ME?

……

"THAT'S RIGHT"
YOUR EYES.
ARE SO PRETTY
HEH HEH HEH

IT WILL BE WONDERFUL IF YOU WIELD MORE WITH THE DARKNESS
MORE
MORE
AND THEN


AHHAHAHAHAHA!
AH HA HA HA HA HA!

SIR ISAAC
CLAK

WHAT'S IT?
COUNT DRACULA SUMMONS YOU TO HIS ROOM.
ALL RIGHT
AWAY WITH YOU
HMPH. THAT DAMNED SUCCUBUS
FOR A MERE LOW-CLASS DEMON, SHE HAS A BIG MOUTH

THESE DEMONS ARE
LOW CLASS BEINGS WHO CAN BE RULED BY MASTERING THE DEVIL'S ARTS.
COUNT DRACULA.
I HAVE COME AS YOU HAVE ORDERED
THE ONLY ONE I SERVE IS MY KING
COUNT DRACULA, AND NO OTHER

To Be Continued

IN THE NEXT

HECTOR LEAVES ROSALEE'S HOUSE AND COMPLETELY ISOLATES HIMSELF WHILE WALLOWING IN OLD MEMORIES AND SELF-PITY. HOWEVER, ISSAC CATCHES UP TO THIS EX-COMMANDER OF DRACULA'S ARMY, AND A BLOODY BATTLE ENSUES. BUT WHILE THESE TWO ARE TRYING TO RIP EACH OTHER APART, DRACULA'S CASTLE IS INVADED BY BELMONT...

Sagira

Sagira